



Water Quality NewsFlash

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California Marine Waters – MLPA on hold – The Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA), AB 993 (Shelley), was signed in 1999 and requires the Department of Fish and Game to improve the array of *Marine Protected Areas* (MPAs) and develop a plan for establishing networks of MPAs to protect habitats and preserve ecosystem integrity, among other things. Due to lack of funding, DFG has placed the planning effort on hold. However, efforts are underway to secure private funding.

The following six classifications for designating state *Marine Managed Areas* (MMA) are specified in the Resources Code, Section 36700. These replaced the 18 classifications which were previously used to categorize managed areas in marine and estuarine environments.

- State Water Quality Protection Area (SWQPA, formerly ASBS) – *Ocean Plan requirements currently ban storm water discharges into these 34 areas. Planned OP amendments may change these requirements.*
- State Marine Cultural Preservation Area
- State Marine Recreational Management Area.

The following three are considered *Marine Protected Areas* (MPA)

- State Marine Reserve (= Marine Life Reserve) – *defined as no-take areas*
- State Marine Park,
- State Marine Conservation Area

Note that State Water Quality Protection Area (SWQPA) which are currently under discussion in proposed amendments to the Ocean Plan are not *Marine Protected Areas* but are a subset of *Marine Managed Areas*: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa/defs.html#swqpa>

Porter-Cologne – Revisions posted – Division 7 of the California Water Code contains the laws that regulate stormwater and other wastewater discharges. This division is known as the *Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act*. It was significantly revised in the last two legislative sessions. Many of the revisions concern enforcement and penalties. An underlined strikethrough version with additions and amendments effective January 1, 2004, is posted at:

http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_laws/docs/portercologne.pdf The federal Clean Water Act is posted at: <http://www.epa.gov/region5/water/cwa.htm>

WQ NewsFlash is a weekly update of storm water and related news for the Department. *Verify information before taking action on these bulletins.* Contact Betty Sanchez, Betty_Sanchez@dot.ca.gov (916) 653-2115, or Fred Krieger, (510) 843-7889, fkrieger@msn.com with questions or to be added or deleted from e-mail list. Posted online at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/stormwater/index.htm> Click: *Storm Water Bulletins*